

PT6520 REDEMPTION UNFOLDED SYLLABUS

***REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
CHARLOTTE***



FALL 2026

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PT6520 Redemption Unfolded
FALL 2026
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REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The redemptive plan of salvation displayed in Scripture will be studied in order to provide the student with the overarching “big picture” of the plan of God as unfolded in the Bible. Topics such as Systematic Theology, Bible book surveys, applying Scripture to one’s personal Christian growth and need for sanctification, and evangelism will be addressed in order to assist the student in his or her daily walk with Christ.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

COGNITIVE (KNOW/UNDERSTAND):

1. The student will grasp an overview of the history of God’s unfolding plan of redemption as demonstrated in the Scriptures.
2. The student will understand God’s faithfulness to His people in light of their frequent unfaithfulness and sin.
3. The student will grow in his or her understanding of how Scripture applies to life.

AFFECTIVE (FEEL/MOTIVATION):

By God’s grace...

1. The student will gain a deeper sense of God’s sovereign redemptive plan and a deeper appreciation of the unity of the Word of God.
2. The student will be moved to respond to a God who loves him or her and to serve Him through a heart of humble gratitude.

VOLITIONAL (DO/COMPETENCIES):

1. The student will be able to provide a conceptual overview of the entire Bible and the redemptive plan of salvation.
2. The student will study one biblical theme that occurs throughout God’s redemptive plan, as demonstrated by Scriptural revelation.



Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: Redemption Unfolded PT6520
 Professor: Dr. Rod Culbertson
 Campus: Charlotte
 Date: Fall 2026

MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes <i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i> <i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i>		Rubric • Strong • Moderate • Minimal • None	Mini-Justification
Articulation (oral & written)	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks. Also includes ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Moderate	A conceptual understanding of the redemptive plan of bible history will be covered.
Scripture	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	Strong	God's progressive plan of redemption is surveyed and much Scripture is read.
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Minimal	Some theological study is addressed
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Minimal	A personal response to God's redemptive plan will be an emphasis of the course.
Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. Includes ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Moderate	Obedience to Scripture is a priority in the course.
Winsomely Reformed	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	Minimal	God's covenant love will be considered.
Pastoral Ministry	Ability to minister the Word of God to hearts and lives of both church and unchurched, to include preaching, teaching, leading in worship, leading and shepherding the local congregation, aiding in spiritual maturity, concern for non-Christians.	None	

REQUIRED READING

Required Textbooks:

1. **Bible, The** (NIV, ESV, NASB, KJV): Selected portions. **NOTE:** Each week the student will email the professor prior to the beginning of the class *if he or she has not completed* the required Bible reading for that week, as stated in the reading schedule below.
2. Culbertson, Rod, *So Send I You*. (Available online [here](#))

REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

I. Class attendance and discussion

You will be expected to attend class and participate in the class discussion, especially as we interact with the lecture topics, textbooks and assigned reading. Failure to attend class will affect your grade adversely.

II. Reading (33% of course grade):

Course reading is required and will be graded based on an honor system report *that the students provides each class meeting*.

III. Paper (33% of course grade):

One paper is required for the course.

Note: Papers must... (you can lose points here):

- **Be double-spaced.**
- **Be numbered.**
- **Be written with 12 point/Times Roman typeset and standard margins. No extra spacing between paragraphs.**
- **SUBMITTED by the time of class on the assigned due date.**

Standard SBL format, as outlined in *The SBL Handbook of Style*, 2nd ed. (SBL Press, 2014). (Book is available in the library, but you should own your own copy). The paper should have single-spaced footnotes (not endnotes) and resemble the articles found in the standard journals; e.g., JBL, JTS, JETS, NTS, etc.

Choose a theme or topic that can be observed throughout the entire Bible and study it in either a historical redemptive (progressive revelation) manner or in a systematic theology (categorical) manner.

Some suggestions for themes and topics might be:

- Adoption
- altar
- angels
- any of the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, etc.)
- apostasy
- atonement
- Babylon
- Baptism
- beauty
- benediction
- birth
- blessing
- blood
- bread
- cattle
- children
- choosing
- Christ (in the Old Testament or in the Psalms)
- circumcision
- cleansing
- coming
- conception/birth
- conquest
- covenant
- creation/creator
- cup
- curse
- damnation/hell
- darkness
- day
- deliverance
- desert
- devil/Satan
- disobedience
- door/gate
- drought
- Egypt
- elder
- election
- enemies
- famine
- forgiveness
- exile

- failure
- faith
- famine
- feast
- festival
- fire
- future
- garden
- giving
- glory
- God's back
- God's ears
- God's eyes/sight
- God's face
- God's hand
- God's memory
- God's right hand
- God's smile
- God's word/mouth
- grace
- grace/law tension
- heaven
- holiness
- holy city
- hope
- horses
- households
- hour
- hunger
- idolatry/idols
- incarnation
- joy
- judge
- judgment
- justice
- kingdom
- knowledge
- lamb
- land
- laughter
- law
- leader/leadership
- light
- lordship
- mercy

- messenger
- Messiah
- miracles
- mountain(s)
- music
- naked (nakedness)
- nation
- night
- obedience
- ocean/sea
- peace
- people of God
- persecution
- pilgrimage
- praise
- prayer
- preaching
- predestination
- priesthood
- prison
- prisoner
- prophecy
- punishment
- quickly
- rebellion
- redemption
- resurrection
- revelation
- river
- role of the Holy Spirit
- rule/ruler
- sacrifice
- salvation
- sanctification
- sea beast(s)
- servanthood
- sheep
- shepherd
- sin
- slow
- snake/serpent
- song
- sorrow/tears
- sovereignty
- spiritual warfare

- struggle
- submission
- suffering
- sun
- temple/tabernacle
- temptation
- the world
- thirst
- thorns
- time
- trace one of the ten commandments
- tree
- Trinity
- types
- unfaithfulness
- valley
- victory
- vision/focus
- wait
- water
- way
- way/road
- wilderness
- wind
- wisdom
- witness
- worship (bowing)
- yoke

Use at least 5 sources and provide a brief bibliography.

Length: 7 pages.

Due: November 19, 2026 (at the time of class)

IV. Final Exam (33% of course grade)

The final exam will be a comprehensive, written exam that will cover content and concepts covered primarily from all of the lecture material. You will not be examined from the course reading, unless the book is cited in the lectures. You will need to know basic concepts from all of your Bible reading (most of this will be covered in the class lectures).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Bernard, T. D. [*The Progress of Doctrine in the New Testament*](#).
2. Crabb, Larry. [*66 Love Letters: A Conversation With God That Invites You Into His Story*](#).
3. Craig G. Bartholomew, Craig G., and Goheen, Michael W. [*The Drama of Scripture: Finding Our Place in the Biblical Story*](#).
4. Culbertson, Rod. [*As The Father Has Sent Me*](#).
5. Hermerding, Dennis C. [*According to Plan: The Unfolding Revelation of God in the Bible*](#).
6. Roberts, Vaughn. 2002. [*God's Big Picture*](#). IV Press, 168 pp.
7. Scroggie, Graham. The Unfolding Drama of Redemption [*Unfolding-Drama-Redemption-Graham-Scroggie*](#)
8. Sproul, R.C. [*What's in the Bible?*](#)
9. Williams, Michael D. [*Far as the Curse Is Found: The Covenant Story of Redemption*](#).
10. Williams, Michael. [*How to Read the Bible Through the Jesus Lens*](#).

ACADEMIC MATTERS AND GUIDELINES

GRADING:

Grades will be assigned according to the RTS grading system: 100-97=A, 96-94=A-, 93-91=B+, 90-88=B, 87-86=B-, 85-83=C+, 82-80=C, 79-78=C-, 77-75=D+, 74-72=D, 71-70=D-, below 70=F. Adjustments in this grading system are left to the prerogative of the professor.

POLICY ON CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM: Cheating is the use of another person's work on behalf of your own work, with the assumption being that it is your work. The MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers says, "To plagiarize is to give the impression that you have written or thought something that you have in fact borrowed from someone else." Plagiarism is the use of ideas, information and content from a particular source without giving credit to that source by footnoting the source or accounting for it in a bibliography. Cheating will result in an automatic zero (0) grade for the assignment, paper or exam involved. Plagiarism, whether intentional or unintentional, is considered academic theft. The academic consequences of plagiarism are as follows: 1) First offense: The student must rewrite the paper and receive no better than a passing "D" grade for it. 2) Second offense: The student fails the entire course.

POLICY ON LATE WORK: Please do not ask me for permission to turn in an assignment late. All late assignments will automatically be penalized. If you have truly been providentially hindered from completing an assignment on time (such as a death in the immediate family or

personal extreme illness), turn in a written request (to me) asking to wave the late penalty with the assignment. Any work turned in late and without either a written excuse or previous permission granted by the professor will be docked accordingly for that assignment.

POLICY ON GRAMMAR AND SPELL CHECK: Any work turned in which appears to lack “proofing” or displays poor grammar will receive a small penalty affecting the grade.

ALL EXAMS, PAPERS AND REPORTS SHOULD BE EMAILED TO

rculbertson@rts.edu

**PT 6520 REEMPTION UNFOLDED
FALL 2026 COURSE SCHEDULE**

Lecture/Date	Reading Due
1 8/25	Introduction
2 9/01	BIBLE READING: Genesis
3 9/08	BIBLE READING: Exodus 1-21; Numbers 11-14; Deuteronomy 1-8
4 9/15	BIBLE READING: Joshua 1-12 and Joshua 21-24
5 9/22	BIBLE READING: Judges; Ruth
6 9/29	BIBLE READING: I Samuel
10/06	FALL READING WEEK
7 10/13	BIBLE READING: II Samuel
8 10/20	BIBLE READING: I Kings
9 10/27	BIBLE READING: II Kings, Habakkuk
10 11/03	BIBLE READING: Ezra, Nehemiah
11 11/10	BIBLE READING: Esther, Malachi, Matthew (chapters 1-4)
12 11/17	BIBLE READING: Acts 1-11:18 Culbertson, <i>So Send I You</i>, pages 1-35
13 11/24 (12/1?)	BIBLE READING: Acts 11:19-28 Culbertson, <i>So Send I You</i>, pages 36-54 Paper and Reading (Culbertson) Report Due
FINAL EXAM	December 3-8



RTS Charlotte Classroom Technology Usage

RTS Charlotte recognizes how essential it is for students to have reliable, campus-wide access to the internet. For that reason, we have made Wi-Fi available for our student body, not only in the library and student lounges, but also in the classrooms. We know that students need to use the internet to download class materials, access files on the Cloud, and locate other important information. However, we also recognize that internet access in the classroom provides opportunity for abuse and misuse. Some students have unfortunately used their internet access to engage in many activities that distract them from the classroom lectures (e.g., surfing the web, checking sports scores, playing games). Not only does such activity hamper a student's own seminary education, but it distracts other students who can easily view the screens of nearby students. In addition, donors and classroom guests (who often sit in the back) can see this inappropriate internet usage, which reflects poorly on RTS. Classroom etiquette includes leaving cell phones turned off, refraining from surfing the Internet or playing computer games or other distracting activities. In addition, students must respect standards set by individual professors regarding the use of technology during their class.

In order to address this issue, we must appeal to the integrity of the students as ones who are preparing for a lifetime of ministry to Christ and his church. We expect each student to take personal responsibility for proper classroom technology usage and to encourage others around them to do the same. All RTS-Charlotte students are accountable to the policies stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Catalog and are therefore expected to use technology in the classroom only for appropriate class-related activities. Student conduct is under the supervision of the Dean of Students.



RTS Charlotte

Student Instructions for Finals using LockDown Browser

1. Install the LockDown Browser application on the computer you intend to use for exams, prior to sitting for the exam, using this link:
<https://download.respondus.com/lockdown/download.php?id=998253613>
 - a. This link is ONLY for RTS students and covers Mac and Windows applications.
 - b. Be sure that you are able to log in to your Canvas account from the LockDown Browser before the day of the exam.
 - c. If you use internet filtering software (for example, Covenant Eyes) you may need to disable it before beginning an exam with LockDown Browser. Some types of filtering software can block your computer's connection to Canvas. Also, please be sure to add an exception for our Canvas URL: <https://rts.instructure.com>
2. The exam proctor should not be a current RTS student (current = taken a class within the past year but not yet graduated) or a member of the library staff.
3. The proctor must observe the student taking the exam and ensure that there are no devices or resources available other than the computer being used for the exam.
4. Access the exam during the date window specified for that exam.
 - a. Sign in with the proctor.
 - b. Start the LockDown Browser application using a wired or known reliable Wi-Fi connection. We do not recommend using restaurant or coffee shop Wi-Fi to take exams.
 - c. Have your student ID number and proctor details available to input into the exam.
 - d. Log in to your Canvas account.
 - e. Navigate to the exam. You will not be able to access the exam with a standard web browser. For additional details on using LockDown Browser, review this [Student Quick Start Guide \(PDF\)](#).
 - f. The time clock will begin once you open the exam.
 - g. The exam must be completed in one sitting. You may not exit and return to the exam later.
 - h. The exam will contain questions regarding an honor pledge, and certification that your proctor was present during the entire exam period.
 - i. Sign out with the proctor.
5. Proctors may be contacted to verify information regarding exam administration.
6. In the rare case of a technical issue (for example, if power goes out during exam) the proctor will document the date and time when the issue was reported. Once you open the exam using the LockDown Browser, you will not be able to access other programs on your computer.

Extensions Policy for Assignments: In extenuating circumstances, a deadline extension of **up to one week** may be granted at the discretion of the professor. Requests for extensions of **more than one week** must be submitted to the Registrar for consideration by the Academic Dean in

consultation with the professor. Extensions are granted only for significant emergencies or unforeseen circumstances, and a grade penalty may be applied. *All extension requests must be made **prior to the assignment deadline**.* No retrospective extensions will be granted.